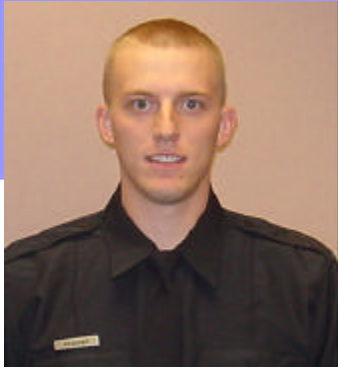


# The Police Corps Weekly

Week 9

November 11, 2003



## Recruit Profile

### Name:

Peter Kraeger

### Hometown:

Waupaca, WI

### Sponsoring Agency:

Eau Claire PD

### College:

Concordia University

### Hobbies:

Basketball

Fishing

Hunting

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Edited by Recruit Scott & Recruit Olson

## Emergency Vehicle Operation

By Recruit Jentzsch

The class started its Emergency Vehicle Operations (EVO) training by spending time in the classroom learning about the authority and limitations regarding driving in emergency mode. The recruits learned that Chapter 346.03 of the Wisconsin State Statutes specifically detail when and how officers can proceed in emergency mode. They learned that even though officers are granted the ability to disregard some



traffic regulations while in emergency mode, they must still operate with due regard. Due regard is defined as whether a reasonably careful person, performing similar duties and under similar circumstances, would act in the same manner. The recruits also learned the consequences for operating without due regard or disregarding agency policy. They include being held civilly liable or possibly having criminal charges brought against them.

The recruits were taught that as patrol officers, there are a number of distractions going on inside the vehicle that can take their minds off of their driving. Some of those include: using the police radios, Mobile Data Terminals, cell phones, managing fatigue, job stress and unexpected hazards of the road. With all of these in mind, officers still must remember that the most important duty of all is to get to the call safely. Although officers are granted more freedom in the operation of emergency vehicles, they must remember that with that freedom comes greater responsibility.



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## Searches & Room Clearing (Day II)

By Recruit Rousseau

On Sunday, the recruits had their second full day of Searches and Room Clearing. During the first part of the day, the recruits were instructed on the proper way to deal with an "Active Shooter". The term "Active Shooter" was coined after the Columbine High School tragedy of 1999. Since the police were ill trained for the

events of Columbine, police academies across the country began teaching responses to the "Active Shooter". In "Active Shooter" training, the recruits were taught that their first objective is to go after the threat. Providing aid to the injured is an important task, but the primary task is to deal with the threat before more people are injured or killed.

After the recruits learned how to deal with the "Active Shooter", it was time for them to practice the techniques. After a short brief on Simunitions, a paint-ball-type training device, the recruits were placed into tactical groups to practice room entering and clearing. The only thing the recruits were told was that there was an active shooter on the premises. The groups came across different mock situations that



tested their reactions and knowledge of what to do in stressful situations. The recruits found the scenarios to be exciting and very enlightening.



## Pursuit Intervention Technique

By Recruit Miller

On Friday, the recruits were trained in the Pursuit Intervention Technique (P.I.T.). P.I.T. is used to induce or force suspects to stop when they are evading police during pursuits.

P.I.T. works by the officer's vehicle making contact with the suspect vehicle's rear corner panel. The slightest amount of acceleration, and a quarter turn of the steering wheel by the officer,

causes the rear end of the suspect vehicle to deviate more than 25 degrees, which causes the vehicle to spin out. Despite any evasive action performed by the driver, the suspect vehicle will be unable to continue on its current path of travel. It has proven to be a very effective technique and still allows the officer to maintain control. In order for P.I.T. to be effective, it must be applied with an adequate amount of speed, but use of P.I.T. at speeds of more than 35 mph is considered deadly force. In addition, P.I.T. should not be used on top-heavy vehicles such as sport utility vehicles, trucks, and vans.

The Wisconsin State Patrol Academy and the Wisconsin Police Corps are the only academies in



Wisconsin to teach the P.I.T. maneuver. P.I.T. is relatively new in Wisconsin and is not in the policies of most agencies in the state. It is highly probable that after more agencies are instructed in the proper technique and are able to see the benefits of the P.I.T. maneuver, they will include the technique in their pursuit policies.



## Patrol Techniques

By Recruit Glejf

During this block of instruction, Sergeant Anibas of the Eau Claire Police Department taught the recruits on the many different types of patrol that po-

lice officers have at their disposal. Some of the types of patrol include foot, bicycle, motorcycle, horse, boat, and K-9. Many of these patrol types allow police officers greater mobility around their respective beats within their cities.

Each one of these types of patrol has advantages and disadvantages. Police departments have to consider many variables when adding different types of patrol. These variables may include the department's budgetary status, the amount of training involved, and the effectiveness of the patrol.

Sergeant Anibas also informed the recruits that whichever type of patrol they attempt to use, it is extremely important to vary the patrol route. Officers will get to know all aspects of their "beat" and their patrols will not become so predictable. This instruction was very informative and was a good introduction to the many facets of policing.



## EVO Practical Exam

By Recruit Drobnick

After the recruits learned the basics of Emergency Vehicle Operation (EVO), it was time to put them to the test. Each recruit paired up with an instructor and demonstrated the skills that they had learned.

The first part of the exam consisted of a "turn-around" drill. In this part, the recruits had to back in and out of ten and twelve-foot wide parking stalls. This task had to be completed three times without knocking over any cones.

The next part of the exam

consisted of evasive driving. The evasive maneuver portion of the test had the recruits perform an extremely quick turn at a speed of 30 miles per hour. The recruits then had to perform straight line backing, serpentine in and out of cones at speeds of 20 miles per hour, and perform the proper technique to negotiate a corner at high speeds.

The comprehensive portion of the exam put all of the recruits' skills into one multi-stage event. During this test, the recruits had to perform a backwards serpentine, parallel park, complete a successful Y-turn, and back

into two stalls.

The recruits had the opportunity to pursue an instructor throughout the EVO course during pursuit driving. The recruits had to utilize all of the skills that they had learned in order to successfully complete this test. This portion of the exam was both exciting and challenging for the recruits.

All of the recruits passed their EVO exams with flying colors. They had a lot of fun training and learning different ways to safely operate emergency vehicles.

## Picture Of The Week

Photograph by Recruit Glejf

Minutes before conducting our mock pursuits around the Emergency Vehicle Operation course, Training Officer Sacia puts on his game face.

